

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 INRE-00 IO-10 AID-05

/065 W

----- 118200

O R 251140Z SEP 75 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7627

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 1435

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, DM

SUBJ: REMAINING SOUTH KOREAN PRESENCE IN DAHOMEAN TREATED

1. DAHOMEAN GOVT OFFICIAL MEDIA TODAY ANNOUNCED ARRIVAL OF FOUR NORTH KOREAN DOCTORS AND ONE TRANSLATOR WHO WILL BE ASSIGNED TO MILITARY HOSPITAL IN OUIDAH. THAT SMALL HOSPITAL PRESENTLY HAS TWO SOUTH KOREAN DOCTORS ON ITS STAFF.

2. SOUTH KOREAN DOCTORS HAVE COME TO EMBASSY TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE IN COMMUNICATING WITH THEIR AMB IN ABIDJAN, WHO IS ACCREDITED HERE. THEY HAVE TRIED THUS FAR WITHOUT SUCCESS TO TELEPHONE HIM AND ARE CONTINUING THEIR EFFORTS.

3. THEY HAVE ASKED THAT WE PASS TO THEIR AMB THE FOLLOWING:
A) THE NEWS, WHICH TOOK THEM COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE, B) FACT THEY HAVE ENDEAVORED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO SEE OFFICIALS OF THE PUBLIC HELTH MINISTRY THIS MORNING TO REQUEST AN EXPLANATION AND C) THEIR NEED FOR IMMEDIATE GUIDANCE (BELIEVE THEY EXPECT ROK EMBASSY OFFICER TO COME OVER TO ASSIST THEM).

4. RECOMMENDED ACTION: THAT THE EMBASSY INFORM THE KOREAN EMBASSY SOONEST OF ABOVE.

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5. COMMENT: THESE TWO SOUTH KOREAN PHYSICANS, WHO HAVE,

BY THE WAY, PERFORMED WELL AND IN PAST HAVE RECEIVED MUCH
PRAISE FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH MINISTER AND THE MINISTRY'S
CIVIL SERVANTS, REPRESENT THE LAST REMAINING ROK PRESENCE IN
DAHOMY. IF THEY LEAVE,THE ONLY VESTIGE OF A RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL BE IN THE PERSON OF THE NON-
RESIDENT ROK AMB IN ABIDJAN.
ENGLE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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